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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	H. Robert Horvitz et al.	Art Unit:	Not yet assigned
Serial No.:	09/888,243	Examiner:	Not yet assigned
Filed:	June 22, 2001	Customer No.:	21559
Title:	RELATEDNESS OF HUMAN INTERLEUKIN-1 β CONVERTASE GENE TO A <i>C. ELEGANS</i> CELL DEATH GENE, INHIBITORY PORTIONS OF THESE GENES AND USES THEREFOR		

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, kindly amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

Kindly replace the sequence listing filed with the application with the attached amended sequence listing.

In the claims:

Cancel claims 5, 17, and 20, without prejudice, and replace claims 1-4, 6-16, 18, and 19 with the following amended claims that have been re-written in clean form.

1. (Amended) An isolated protein, consisting of a protein product of a gene which